(viii) Guard personnel equipped with sophisticated weaponry and communication facilities to foil attacks of terrorists.

Action plan for development of naxalite affected districts

3487. DR. AKHILESH DAS : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to State :

(a) whether Special Action Plans for speedy development of the naxalite affected districts of Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra and other States have been taken up;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof, indicating their respective costs; and the progress made in implementation thereof; and

(c) the special central funding so far sought therefor and response of the Central Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFFAIRS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) to (c) Integrated Action Plans, encompassing development as well as security aspects in the affected areas, were received from Andhra Pradesh (Rs. 1299.17 crores), Bihar (Rs. 1862.72 crores) Chhattisgarh (Rs. 1435.13 crores), Madhya Pradesh (Rs. 615 crores) Maharashtra (Rs. 838 crores) and Orissa (Rs. 268.84 crores) and were forwarded to the Planning Commission for earmarking separate funds for the purpose. The Planning Commission raised certain issues regarding institutional measures to make administration responsible and strengthen delivery mechanism through greater involvement of the people. The concerned State Governments were advised accordingly.

Besides, the Ministry has requested the Planning Commission to include 53 affected districts in LWE States under the Scheme of Backward Districts Initiative (BDI) so as to fill in the critical gaps in physical and social in frastructure in these districts.

Setting up of Disaster Management Authority

3488. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to State :

(a) whether Government have decided to set up a Disaster Management Authority comprising of hand picked personnel from Security Forces and train them to takle crisis situation;

(b) if so, whether it has also been decided to challenge terrorists by commando teams trained to counter weapons of mass destruction are being set up with the help of Israel;

(c) the places where these commandos will be stationed; and

(d) the other details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFFAIRS (SHRI. I. D. SWAMI): (a) The process of earmarking, training and equipping specialized teams of Central Para Military Forces to supplement the efforts of State Governments for quickly responding to natural and man made disaster situations, as and when required, has been initiated.

(b) There is no proposal at present to have commando teams trained with to help of Israel to counter weapons of mass destruction.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Measures taken to protect Kashmiri Pandits

3489. SHRI R. P. GOENKA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to State:

(a) whether it is a fact that Centre and the Jammu and Kashmir Government have revived the 1998 Action Plan to constitute a Special Group to review the existing 'Macro strategies' in tackling militancy in the State in the wake of the recent massacre of 24 Kashmiri Pandits in the States; ,

(b) if so, the details thereof, including the time bound plan drawn up for the review; and

(c) the special measures taken to protect the Kashmiri Pandits in the Valley ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE INTHE MINISTERY OFHOME AFFFAIRS(SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Pursuant to the decision taken in the High Level Meeting held on March 31,2003, a Special Group has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Special Secretary (JKA), MHA to review existing macro-strategies of the security forces and intelligence agencies in J & K and to suggest appropriate strategies to be followed to counter terrorism in J & K.

The Special Group has been asked to submit its report within 90 days.

(c) In addition to diplomatic initiatives at various levels and intensive pressure on terrorists in the hinterland, the Government conjointly with the